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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/619,673

07/16/2003

Hidemasa Iijima

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7051

513 7590 03/07/2007
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EXAMINER

HALPERN, MARK

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1731

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/07/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/619,673

Applicant(s)

IIJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Mark Halpern

Art Unit

1731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 February 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

- 1) Acknowledgement is made of Response received 2/5/2007.

Claim 18 is under consideration. Claim 17 remains withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- 2) Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Sollinger (6,024,836). Sollinger discloses a process of making a pulp web, as shown in the Figure. The web is formed in the forming section F, and then the web passes into press section P. There are two extended nips in the press section, nip 12 being the last nip in the press section P. The web then enters the drier section T, without an open draw. The drier section

includes several drier groups, drier group 21 being the first, drier group 22 being the second, and drier group 23 being the third. Each of said drier groups includes at least one drier cylinder (Sollinger recites that each group may include more than one drier cylinder, but for the purpose of this Office Action, each group is taken to have one drier cylinder). Thus drier cylinder in 22 follows drier cylinder in 21 and drier cylinder in 23 follows drier cylinder in 22. The lower roll of the last press section nip 12 and each of the drier cylinders of groups 21, 22, 23 has each own driver M connected by a line system to speed governor 30 and is coupled to a tension monitoring device (not shown). The governor 30 individually drives each of the M driven members to maintain and/or correct the web tension. Speed governor 30 sets an independent speed for each driven member for a slight difference in speed between adjacent position downstream as the web is stretched and kept in tension as it moves downstream from the press section P position in nip 12 to a position in each of progressing downstream drier cylinder groups 21, 22, 23 (col. 4, line 60 to col. 6 line 50, and Figure). The claimed increase in the web speed upon transferring from the press unit to the first dryer unit is up to 1.04 times, or up to 4%, the claimed increase in web speed from the first dryer unit to the second dryer unit is up to 1.01 times, or up to 1%, and the claimed increase in web speed from the second dryer unit to the subsequent dryer unit is up to 1.01 times, or up to 1%. The examiner is considering the claimed limitations as the upper limit of the web speed increase and in fact the increase in speed of the web upon each transfer may be substantially lower than the claimed upper limits, it may be a slight difference in speed. It is thus inherent that the slight difference in speed between said adjacent

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positions as the web moves downstream reads on the claimed range of the increase in speed, or in the least, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, that the increase in speed at each of the downstream positions is within the claimed range because the slight increase in speed is disclosed by Sollinger to keep the web in tension and to keep the web properly stretched and to assure that the web does not tear or break which is a concern of Sollinger and the present invention.

Response to Arguments

3) Applicant's arguments filed 2/5/2007, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants allege that the cited prior art, Sollinger, does not disclose the claimed increase in the web speed upon transferring from the press unit to the first dryer unit is up to 1.04 times, the claimed increase in web speed from the first dryer unit to the second dryer unit is up to 1.01 times, and the claimed increase in web speed from the second dryer unit to the subsequent dryer unit is up to 1.01 times.

The examiner is considering the claimed limitations as the upper limit of the web speed increase and in fact the increase in speed of the web upon each transfer may be substantially lower than the claimed upper limits, it may be a slight difference in speed. It is thus inherent that the slight difference in speed between said adjacent positions as the web moves downstream reads on the claimed range of the increase in speed, or in the least, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention

was made, that the increase in speed at each of the downstream positions is within the claimed range because the slight increase in speed is disclosed by Sollinger to keep the web in tension and to keep the web properly stretched and to assure that the web does not tear or break which is a concern of Sollinger and the present invention.

Applicants provide a Figure showing elongations in excess of 6 % and reciting harmful impact of such elongation.

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., elongations in excess of 6 % and harmful impact of such elongation) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Also, the Figure provided is not part of the original presentation.

Conclusion

4) **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Halpern whose telephone number is 571-272-1190. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Mark Halpern
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1731